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HAPPILY EVER  
AFTER  
PART ONE  
  
THE LAST STORY OF  
FLYCATCHER

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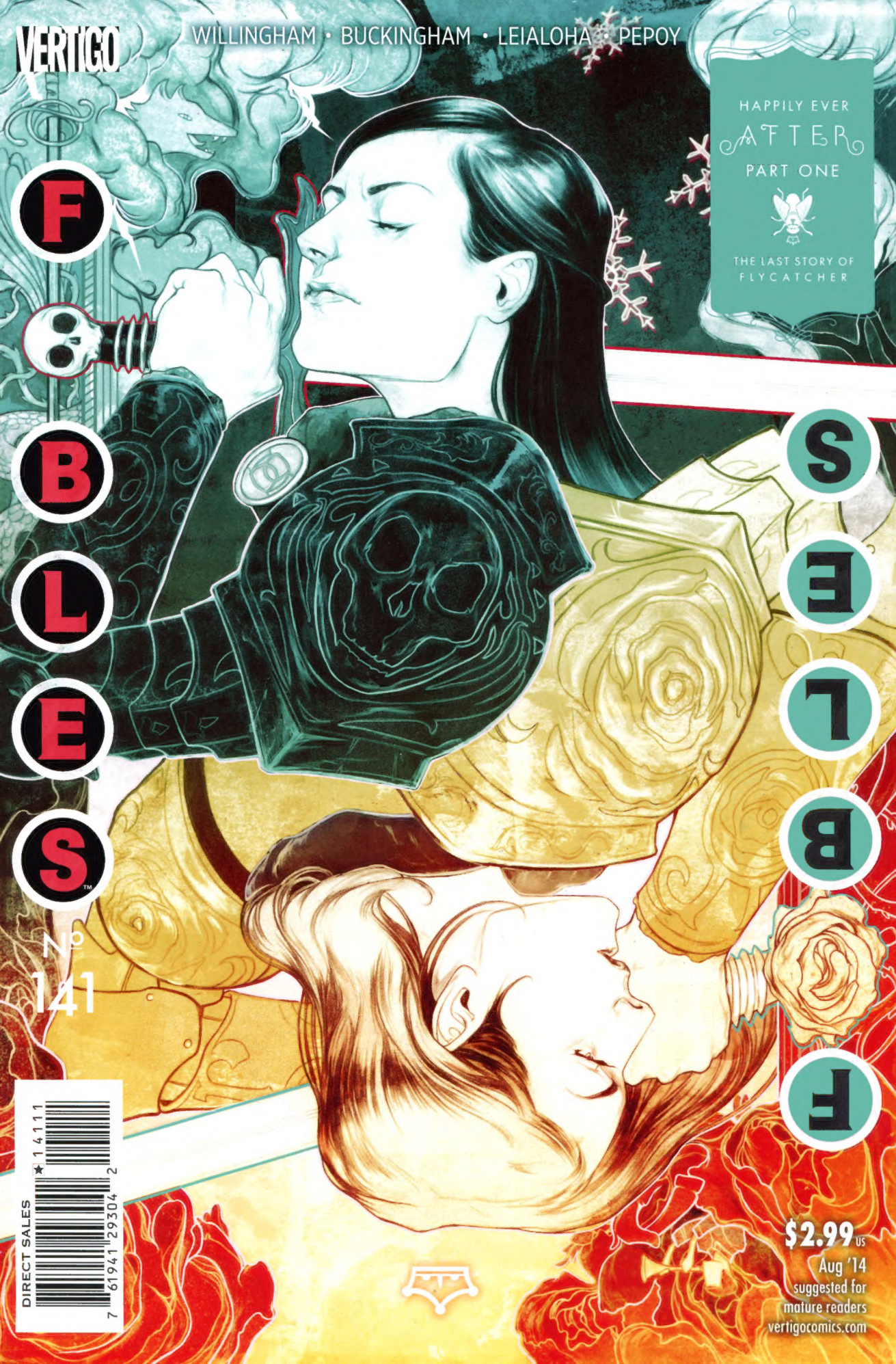
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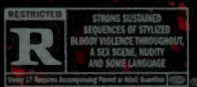
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# Remembrance Day

## Chapter One of HAPPILY EVER AFTER

Bill Willingham writer/creator  
Mark Buckingham pencils  
Steve Leialoha & Andrew Pepoy inks  
Lee Loughridge colors  
Todd Klein letters  
Nimit Malavia cover  
Shelly Bond editor  
Rowena Yow associate editor

**D**URING THE DAYS IN WHICH GEPPETTO'S EMPIRE HELD SWAY OVER COUNTLESS WORLDS, THE BOXERS WERE AN ARMY OF HIGHLY SPECIALIZED COMBAT SORCERERS.



DON'T FALTER, BROTHERS!  
KEEP PRESSING IT!



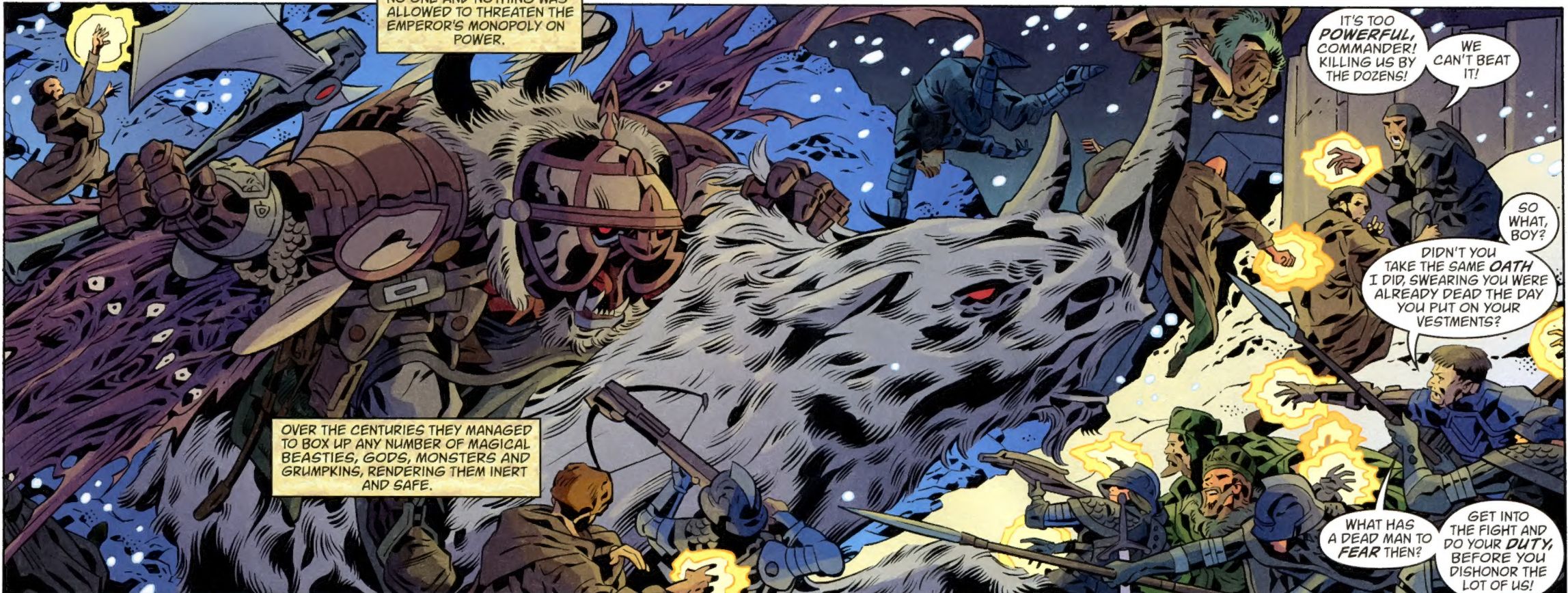
A NEARLY SACRED BROTHERHOOD OF FANATICAL WARRIOR MAGES.

WE'VE GOT IT NOW!



THEIR PURPOSE WAS TO LOCK UP ANY MAGICAL CREATURE WHICH DIDN'T DIRECTLY SERVE THE EMPIRE.

THERE!  
IT'S BOXED!  
CLOSE THE LID, QUICKLY!



NO ONE AND NOTHING WAS ALLOWED TO THREATEN THE EMPEROR'S MONOPOLY ON POWER.

OVER THE CENTURIES THEY MANAGED TO BOX UP ANY NUMBER OF MAGICAL BEASTIES, GODS, MONSTERS AND GRUMPKINS, RENDERING THEM INERT AND SAFE.

IT'S TOO POWERFUL, COMMANDER! KILLING US BY THE DOZENS!

WE CAN'T BEAT IT!

SO WHAT, BOY?

DIDN'T YOU TAKE THE SAME OATH I DID, SWEARING YOU WERE ALREADY DEAD THE DAY YOU PUT ON YOUR VESTMENTS?

WHAT HAS A DEAD MAN TO FEAR THEN?

GET INTO THE FIGHT AND DO YOUR DUTY, BEFORE YOU DISHONOR THE LOT OF US!



THE BOXES WERE TUCKED AWAY IN DEEP, INACCESSIBLE PLACES, OR BEHIND STOUT WALLS AND LARGELY FORGOTTEN.

THERE'S TREASURE TO BE FOUND HERE, FREDDY. I CAN SMELL IT.



THEN THE EMPIRE FELL. YOU KNOW WHY. YOU'VE ALREADY HEARD THAT STORY.

STAND WELL BACK, BROTHER MOUSE.

I'M FIXING TO GIVE THESE CHAINS A MIGHTY--



A FEW OF THE BOXES WERE DISCOVERED BY ROGUES AND RASCALS, LEFTOVERS FROM THE FALL. ONE OR TWO OF THOSE WERE PREMATURELY OPENED.


WHACK!!



NOT MANY, THANK WHATEVER GODS ARE LEFT, BECAUSE MOSTLY IT DIDN'T TURN OUT WELL.


WHAT SORT OF TREASURE IS THIS, THEN?

NOT ONE THAT BODES WELL FOR US, I'D WAGER.




BUT MOST BOXES WERE MORE DEFTLY HIDDEN. NEVER TO BE FOUND. NEVER TO BE OPENED.

UNTIL *TODAY*.




SUDDENLY, ALL ON THE *SAME DAY*, THE BOXES ARE SPRINGING OPEN AND THE BAD THINGS ARE GETTING OUT.



RAGANA AND SLOGUTIS ARE SPRUNG.

WHAT NOW? WHERE ARE YOU *TAKING ME*, SLOGUTIS?

ME? I ASSUMED IT WAS *YOU* DRAGGING ME ALONG.



THE LID HAS POPPED ON GRINDLYLOW, BLACK SHUCK AND HABETROT, ALONG WITH A HOST OF OTHERS.

THEN WHAT NEW INDIGNITY IS THIS?

FREED AT LAST? ONLY TO BE DRAWN *CAPTIVE* AGAIN TO SOME MYSTERIOUS DESTINATION?

AT LEAST WE SEEM TO ALL BE GOING TO THE *SAME PLACE!* LET US VOW TO RESIST IN CONCERT WHATEVER OR WHOEVER AWAITS US THERE!

**FEEL THE  
COMEDY  
BURN**



**COMEDY  
BANG!  
BANG!**

**THURS 10:30P**

**IFC**  
ALWAYS ON  
SLIGHTLY OFF

NOT TO WORRY THOUGH. WHILE THESE DARK AND TERRIBLE CREATURES MAY BE GETTING OUT, THEY AREN'T GETTING LOOSE.



IF WE STAND TOGETHER, MAYBE WE CAN ESCAPE WHAT WE COULDN'T ESCAPE ALONE.

THEY'RE SIMPLY BEING TRANSFERRED TO A DIFFERENT *CONTAINER*.



OUCH!

ROSE RED?

THERE IT IS AGAIN--THAT WEIRD, *GITCHY* FEELING, LIKE A PUNCH IN THE GUT, AT THE SAME TIME I GET A REALLY RIPPING ICE CREAM BRAIN FREEZE.



EXCEPT IT NEVER PHYSICALLY KNOCKED YOU OFF YOUR *FEET* BEFORE.

AND NOW I'M GOING TO FEEL WOBBLY ALL MORNING, WHILE I NEED TO HAVE MY *WITS* ABOUT ME.





UNLOCK

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ACTUALLY,  
STRIKE THAT.

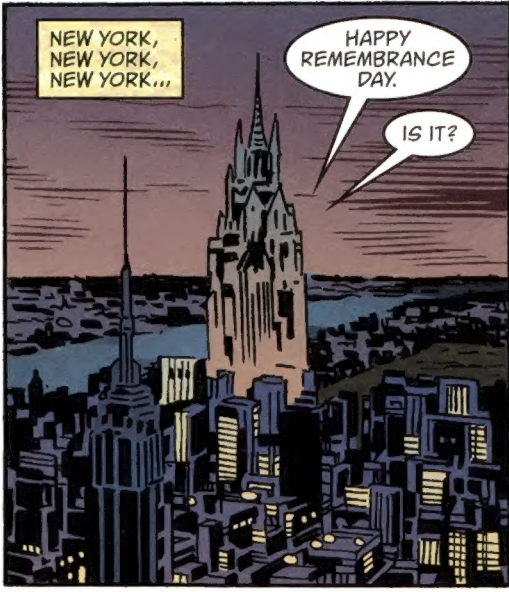
I DON'T  
FEEL WOBBLY  
AT ALL.

IN FACT,  
MORGAN, I FEEL  
PRETTY GOOD.

NO--  
WRONG AGAIN.  
I FEEL REALLY  
GOOD.

WHY AM I NOT  
ENCOURAGED  
BY THIS IMPROVE-  
MENT?







BUT OUR TRADITIONS...

EVEN THE MOST *BELOVED* TRADITIONS ARE OFTEN DESTROYED BY UN-COMFORTABLE CHANGE.



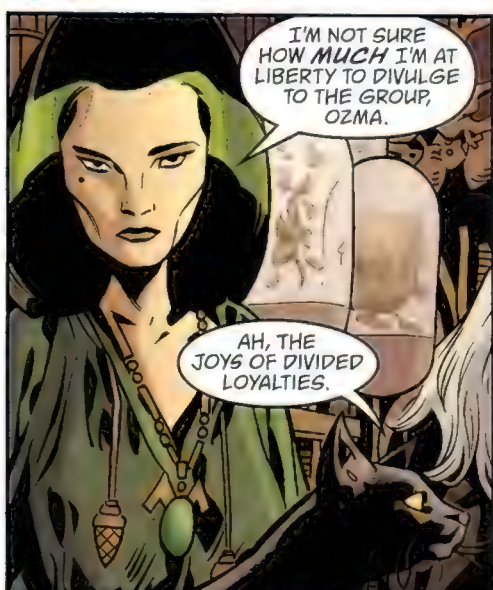
BY PROGRESS.

RIGHT. PROGRESS. LET'S AGREE TO CALL IT *THAT*.



ENOUGH MOANING ABOUT MISSED PARTIES. LET'S BRING OUR MEETING TO *ORDER*.

MORGAN IS DOWN FROM THE FARM, WITH INSIDER NEWS ON ROSE RED'S WORRYING RECENT ACTIVITIES.



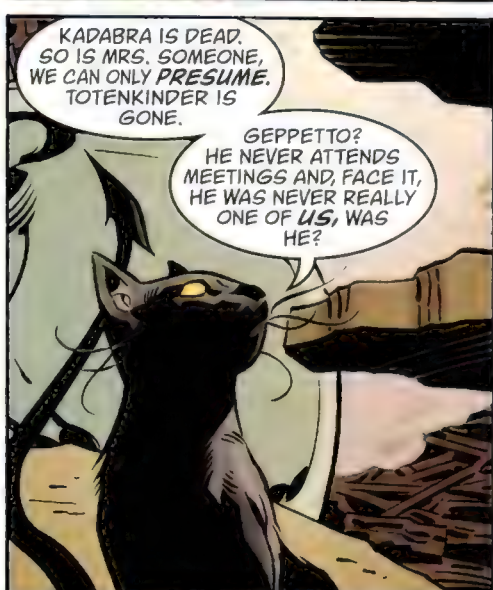
I'M NOT SURE HOW MUCH I'M AT LIBERTY TO DIVULGE TO THE GROUP, OZMA.

AH, THE JOYS OF DIVIDED LOYALTIES.



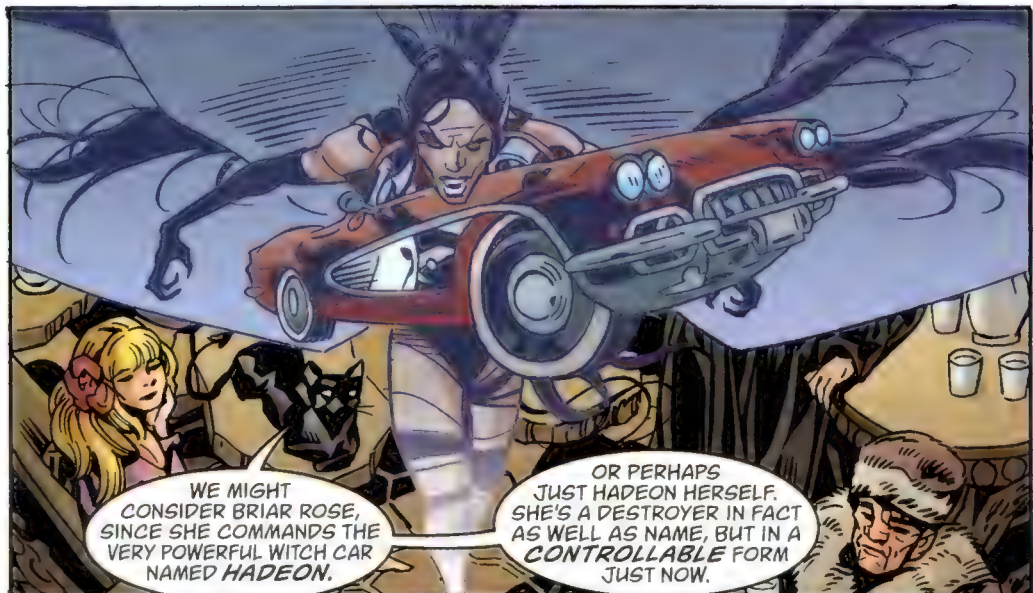
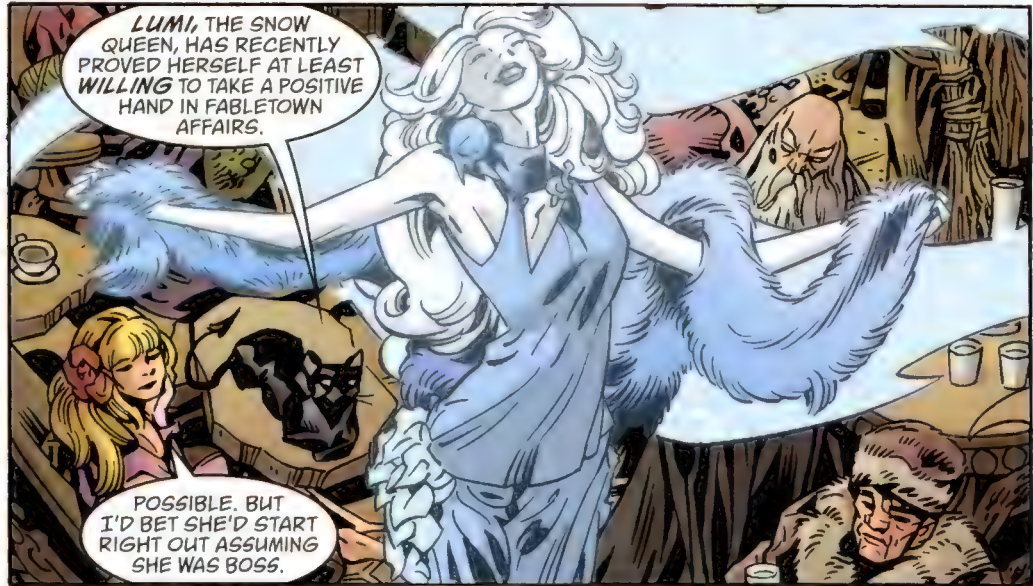
ANY PRESSING BUSINESS TO BRING UP?

HOW ABOUT MEMBERSHIP?



KADABRA IS DEAD. SO IS MRS. SOMEONE. WE CAN ONLY PRESUME. TOTENKINDER IS GONE.

GEPPETTO? HE NEVER ATTENDS MEETINGS AND, FACE IT, HE WAS NEVER REALLY ONE OF *US*, WAS HE?



"Made me literally stop dead in my tracks and just say, 'Wow.'" —IGN

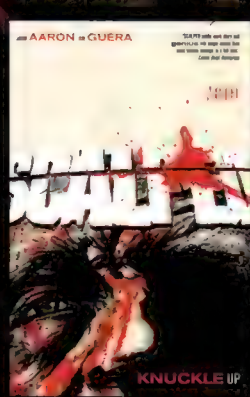
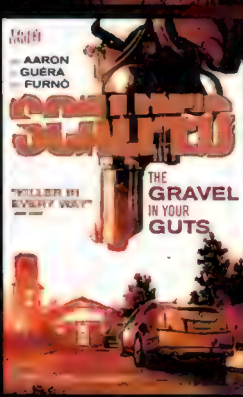
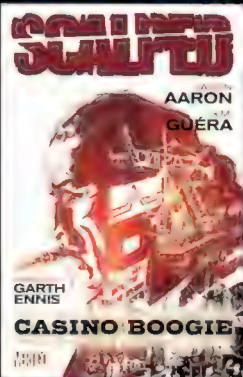
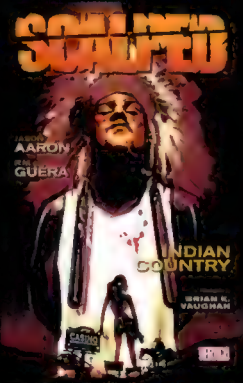
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Art by **R.M. GUERA**

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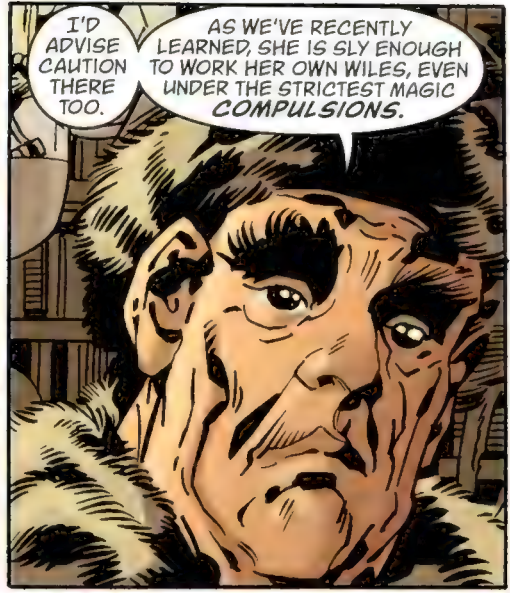
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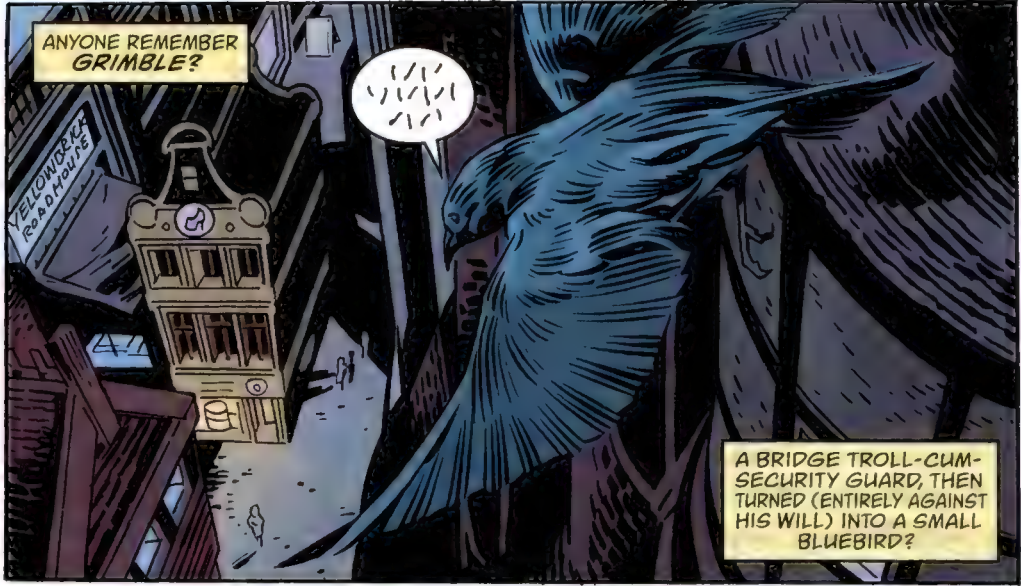
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JULY 2014



ANYONE REMEMBER GRIMBLE?

!!!

A BRIDGE TROLL-CUM-SECURITY GUARD, THEN TURNED (ENTIRELY AGAINST HIS WILL) INTO A SMALL BLUEBIRD?



!!!



BET YOU THOUGHT WE FORGOT HIM, DIDN'T YOU?

!!!

YOU AGAIN.



!!!

GO AWAY!

SCOOT!



:=SIGH:=

FINE.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND, Y'LITTLE POOT?





CAN WE MOVE THIS ALONG? I'D PLANNED TO HEAD UP TO THE FARM FOR A BIT OF HUNTING.

THERE'S ONE MORE ITEM ON MY LIST.



THE *BUSINESS OFFICE* IS BACK AND I THINK WE SHOULD REMOVE ALL OF OUR MAGIC STUFF FROM IT, BEFORE IT DECIDES TO *DISAPPEAR* AGAIN.

HAVE WE PINNED DOWN EXACTLY WHERE THE NEW ACCESS DOOR IS? I HAVEN'T RUN ACROSS IT YET. HAVE ANY OF YOU?



IT'S DEFINITELY ATTACHED TO THE CASTLE, BUT *WHERE* EXACTLY IS STILL UNKNOWN. I'LL TAKE UP THE LEAD IN FINDING IT.

FINE. DO THAT. AND IN THE MEAN-TIME, SPEAKING OF FINDING, I THINK WE SHOULD START SEARCHING FOR *BIGBY*.



IN THE AFTER-LIFE? IN SOME *UNDETERMINED* AFTERLIFE, ONE OF POSSIBLE MILLIONS?

WHERE WOULD WE *BEGIN*? AND WE'D BE NEARLY POWERLESS IN THOSE LANDS.



I PROPOSE WE LOOK A LITTLE CLOSER TO HOME. I THINK *BIGBY'S* BACK.

HOW?

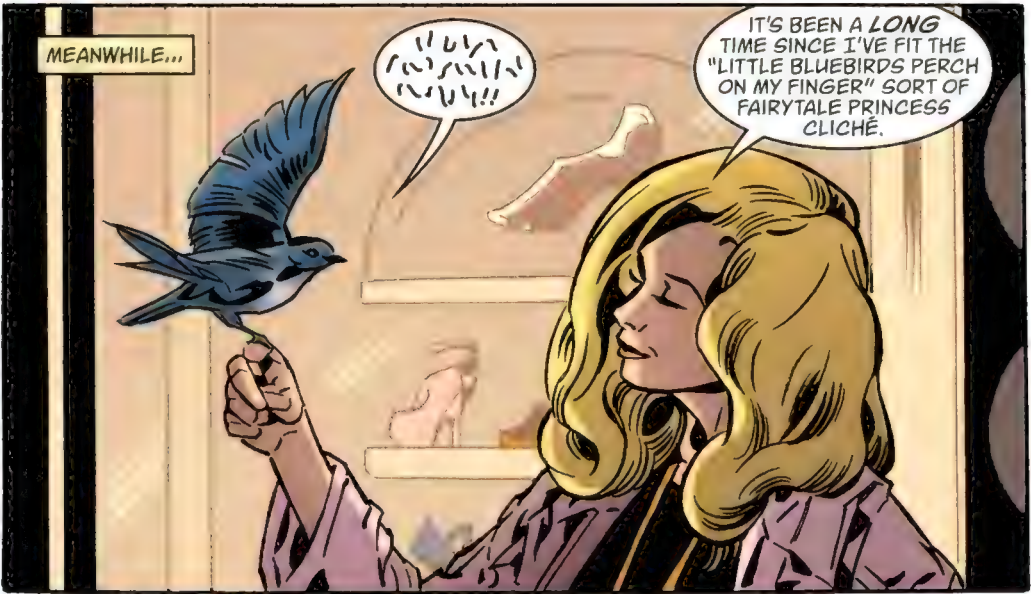
AND HOW COULD YOU *KNOW*? WHAT SPELLS--?



**NEW YORK**  
LATE CITY EDITION  
**SAVAGE BEAST KILLER STRIKES AGAIN!!**

NO *SPELL* REVEALED IT TO ME.  
LOOK.

MEANWHILE...



!!!!  
!!!!  
!!!!!!

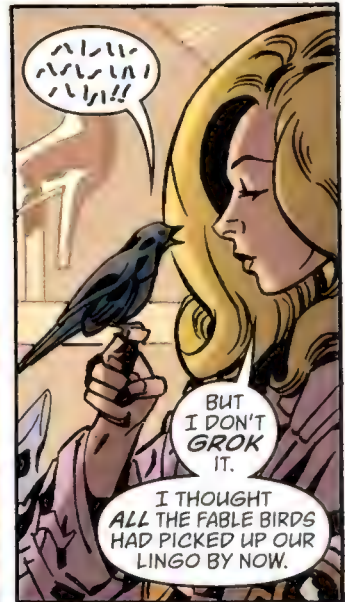
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE FIT THE "LITTLE BLUEBIRDS PERCH ON MY FINGER" SORT OF FAIRYTALE PRINCESS CLICHÉ.



!!!!  
!!!!!!  
!!!!!!

IF ANYONE SEES THIS I MAY HAVE TO KILL HIM TO PRESERVE MY BAD GIRL REPUTATION.

I GUESS YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING PRETTY IMPORTANT TO SAY, STRICTLY JUDGING BY THE FRANTIC QUALITY TO YOUR CHIRPING.



!!!!  
!!!!!!  
!!!!!!

BUT I DON'T GROK IT.

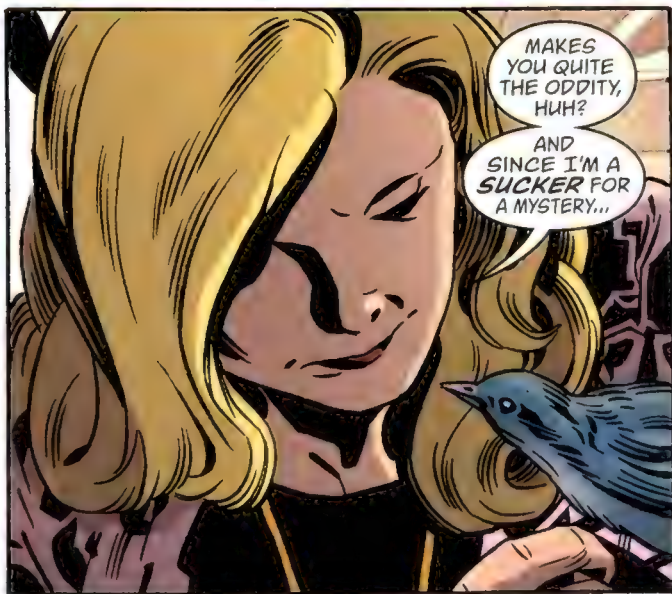
I THOUGHT ALL THE FABLE BIRDS HAD PICKED UP OUR LINGO BY NOW.



!!!!  
!!!!!!

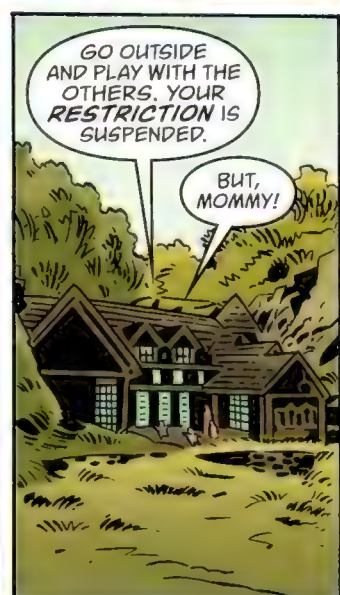
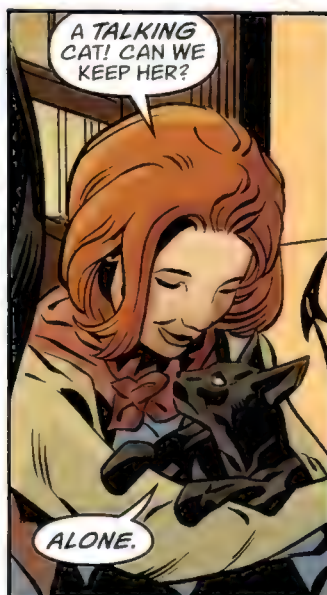
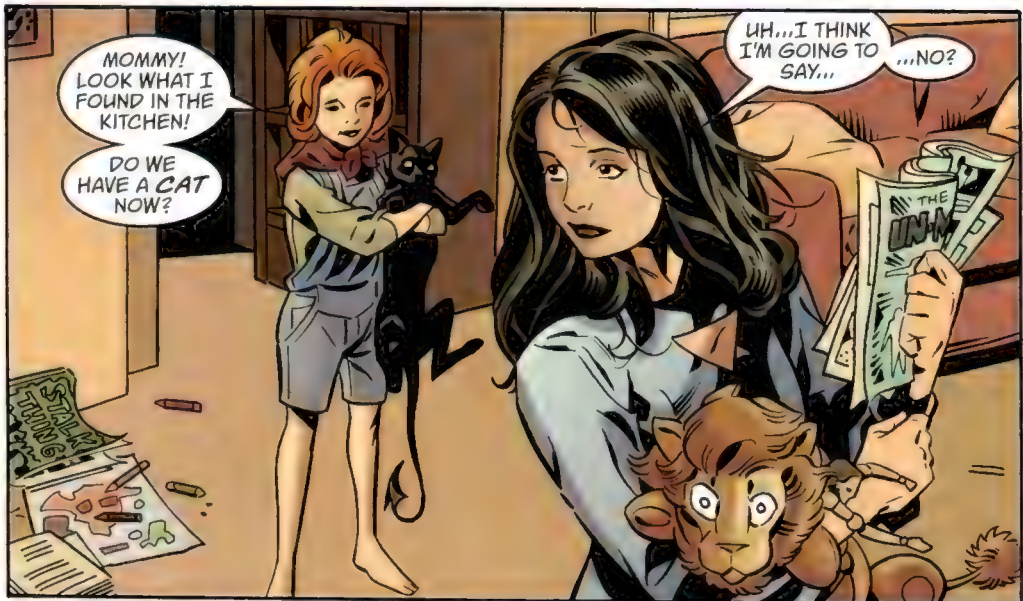
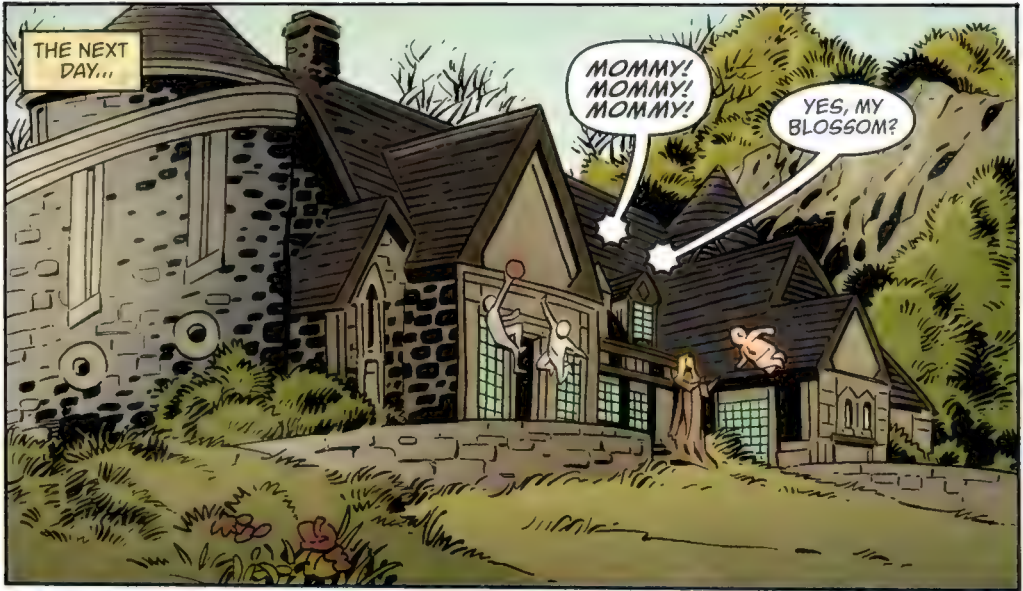
NOT YOU, HUH?

DOUBT YOU'RE A MUNDY BIRD, THOUGH.



MAKES YOU QUITE THE ODDITY, HUH?

AND SINCE I'M A SUCKER FOR A MYSTERY...



# STIEG LARSSON'S THE GIRL WHO PLAYED WITH FIRE

A GRAPHIC NOVEL ADAPTATION OF THE BEST-SELLING NOVEL

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**DENISEMINA**

Illustrated by

**ANDREAMUTTI**

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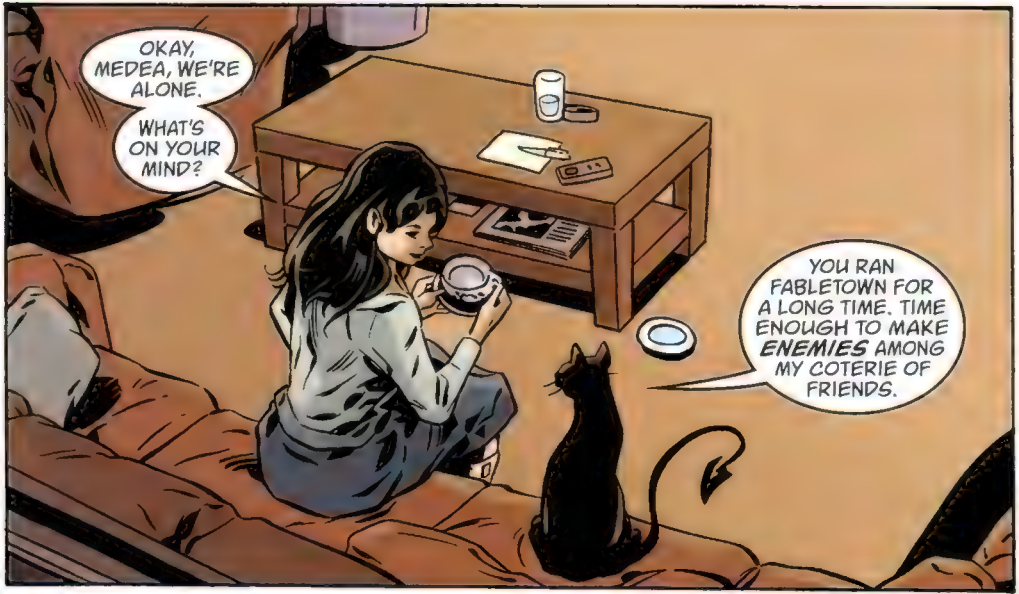
**DEBY**  
ADAPTATIONS

**VERTIGO**

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ALSO AVAILABLE:  
**THE GIRL WITH  
THE DRAGON TATTOO**



OKAY, MEDEA, WE'RE ALONE.  
WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

YOU RAN FABLETOWN FOR A LONG TIME. TIME ENOUGH TO MAKE ENEMIES AMONG MY COTERIE OF FRIENDS.



THE 13TH FLOOR GROUP ARE MY ENEMIES?

THAT MIGHT BE OVERSTATING IT, BUT WE DON'T FORGET ANY SLIGHT, REAL OR IMAGINED. SOME OF THE STORED RESENTMENTS RUN DEEP.



MAYBE ENOUGH TO TIP THE SCALES, DROPPING THEM INTO ROSE RED'S CAMP.

SHE AND I HAVE CAMPS, DO WE?

BETTER GODDAMN BELIEVE IT.




THE TIME TO HOPE THINGS WILL TURN OUT ALL RIGHT IS GONE. THE TIME TO WAKE UP AND SMELL THE CATNIP IS UPON YOU.

YOUR SISTER IS GATHERING AN ARMY. RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE.



SHE'S JUST BUILDING A NEW ORDER OF KNIGHTHOOD. HER LATEST PROJECT.

EXACTLY.




KNIGHTS AND ARMIES.  
TWO THINGS THAT HISTORICALLY FIT  
TOGETHER HAND IN GLOVE.

AND SHE'S  
GATHERING MAGICAL  
POWER IN *VAST* QUANTITIES.  
MORGAN, HER CHOSEN COURT  
WIZARD, CAN'T REALLY SEE  
IT YET, BUT *I* DO.




NO  
*SURPRISE*  
THERE. SHE'S  
A PUTZ.

REVEALING COMPANY  
SECRETS: MORGAN LE FEY  
WEIGHS IN AS SOMETHING  
OF AN UNDERACHIEVER IN  
THE *DETECTION* AND  
*PERCEPTION*  
DISCIPLINES.



WANTING SO MUCH TO  
BE A BADASS, SHE ALWAYS  
THOUGHT *COMBAT* SPELLS  
WERE THE ONLY WAY TO GO,  
TO THE POINT OF NEAR  
CONTEMPT FOR OTHER  
AREAS OF STUDY.


PUTTING  
ALL OF THAT ASIDE  
FOR THE MOMENT,  
MADDY, WHAT'S  
*YOUR* GAME?



IF EVERYONE'S GOING  
WITH *ROSE*, WHY ARE  
YOU HERE?

A *COUPLE*  
OF REASONS.

FIRST IS  
A NAKED POWER-  
GRAB ON MY PART.  
NO ONE AMONG MY  
CLIQUE SEES ME AS  
A THREAT, OR A REAL  
*PLAYER*.



THEREFORE,  
I WAS *NEVER* GOING  
TO RUN THE 13TH FLOOR  
KNITTING CIRCLE. NEVER  
EVEN CONSIDERED.

LET ME  
GUESS. NOT  
UNLESS THERE  
WERE A BIG  
*SHAKE-UP*  
OF THE STATUS  
QUO.



GIVE THE  
GIRL A GOLD  
STAR. CALL THIS  
TÊTE-À-TÊTE A  
FIRST TRIAL  
SHAKE.

*SECOND*  
REASON?

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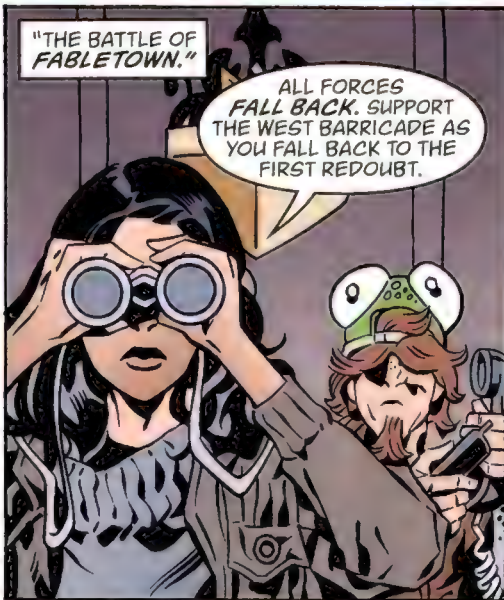
SECOND, I THINK THE OTHERS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF PLACING A BAD BET. YOU *HAVE* RUN FABLETOWN A LONG TIME.

TIME ENOUGH TO ESTABLISH A TRACK RECORD ANYONE WITH HALF A MIND COULD SEE.



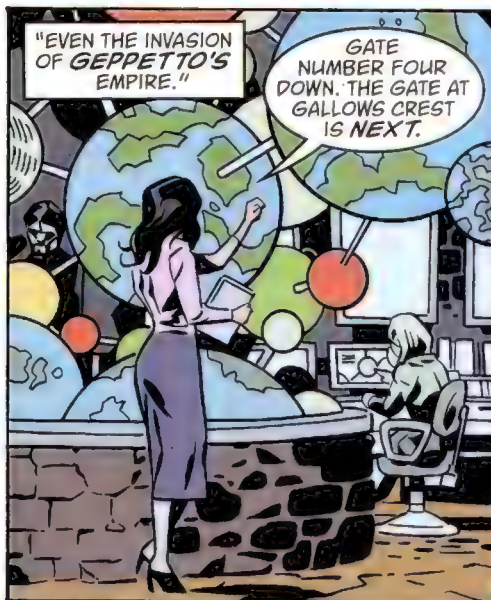
"THE *FARM* INSURRECTION."

*BURN* THE BARN.



"THE BATTLE OF FABLETOWN."

ALL FORCES *FALL BACK*. SUPPORT THE WEST BARRICADE AS YOU FALL BACK TO THE FIRST REDOUBT.



"EVEN THE INVASION OF *GEPPETTO'S* EMPIRE."

GATE NUMBER FOUR DOWN. THE GATE AT GALLOWES CREST IS *NEXT*.



BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR SISTER, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WINS WARS.

IF FORCED TO PICK A *SIDE*, I INTEND TO BE ON THE WINNING ONE.



LATER THAT DAY--  
AROUND DUSK, IN  
FACT...

END OF  
SHIFT.

BEST  
WORDS IN  
THE ENGLISH  
LEXICON.





YOU WERE ALREADY DEAD THE DAY YOU AGREED TO MARRY MY SISTER. I WAS THE ONE WHO TRIED TO WARN YOU, REMEMBER?

SHE WAS ALWAYS MORE COP THAN MY ENTIRE FAMILY OF COPS.



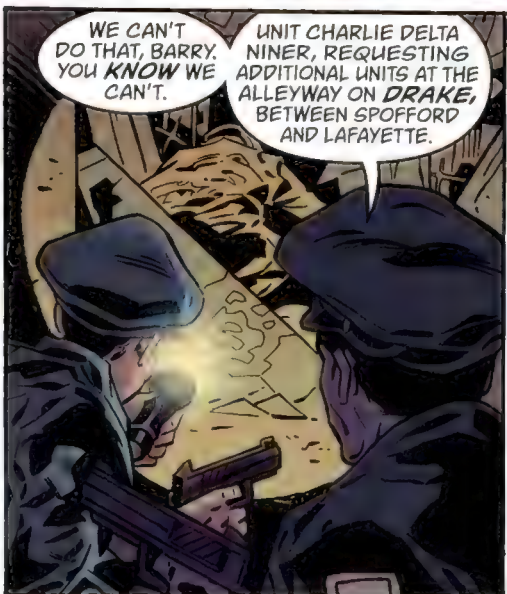
SHIT! WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?

BONES.



HUMAN REMAINS.

LET'S GO, HANK. LET'S TURN AROUND RIGHT NOW AND LET THE NEXT SHIFT TAKE THIS.



WE CAN'T DO THAT, BARRY. YOU KNOW WE CAN'T.

UNIT CHARLIE DELTA NINER, REQUESTING ADDITIONAL UNITS AT THE ALLEYWAY ON DRAKE, BETWEEN SPOFFORD AND LAFAYETTE.



GODDAMN, HANK! GOD-THE-FUCKING-DAMN!

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

HURRY! BACKUP NEEDED NOW! OFFICERS IN DANGER!

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JOHNSON

# The Last Flycatcher Story

Bill  
Willingham  
writer/creator

Mark  
Buckingham  
artist

Lee  
Loughridge  
colors

Todd  
Klein  
letters

Rowena  
Yow  
assoc. ed.

Shelly  
Bond  
editor

MANY YEARS LATER, IN THE  
KINGDOM OF HAVEN...

DAD?

HMM?

TRENT  
AND LUCY  
AND BOBBY  
AND I WERE  
TALKING.

WHEN  
YOU DIE, WHO  
INHERITS THE  
KINGDOM?

HADN'T  
GIVEN IT A LOT OF  
THOUGHT, TADPOLE.  
NOT REALLY PLANNING  
ON DYING SOON.

BUT  
YOU COULD,  
RIGHT?

AND THUS  
ARE PALACE  
INTRIGUES  
BORN.



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4 Sensational artists illustrating a 6-page chapter in each issue

8 Unique cover artists including Fiona Stephenson, Francesco Francavilla, Paul Pope, Mark Chiarello, Eduardo Risso, Brian Bolland and a variant cover for BODIES #1 by David Finch.

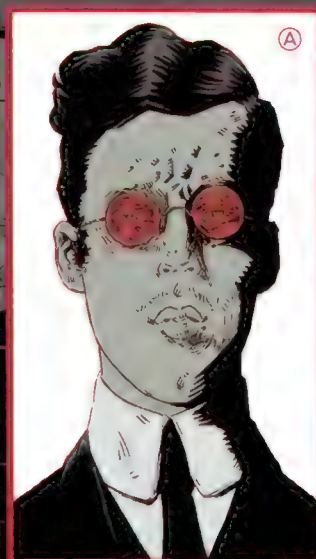
**DEFY LOGIC**  
JULY 30th

1890, Dean Ormston's Victorian, penny dreadful atmosphere is the perfect style for Edmond Hillinghead, a buttoned-down Conan Doyle fan trying to bring science to a police force that essentially exists to protect the rich.

1940, Phil Winslade, with his film noir tones, crafts Karl Whiteman, a Polish émigré career-criminal who fled the Nazis and signed up with the London Police.

2014, Meghan Hetrick illustrates a fast-tracked female Muslim detective, Shahara Hasan, with clean precision that has the feel of present day CCTV or rolling news.

2050, Tula Lotay's dreamlike, surrealist work perfectly depicts the confused state of Maplewood, an amnesiac cop trying to police the few survivors of an apocalypse while struggling to remember who she is at any given moment.





# GRAPHIC CONTENT

## When I was first approached to draw FABLES fourteen years ago ...

(Has it really been so long? Half my career on a single title!) by creator/writer Bill Willingham and editor Shelly Bond, I was lucky enough to be given a choice of story arc. I think the assumption was that I would want to draw issue one and start the series off but, truth to tell, I was tired of drawing people and Manhattan from a couple of solid years on superhero books. For me, it was the great outdoors, animals, birds, and plants that I really wanted to draw, so I chose the second storyline, Animal Farm. It proved to be the right move as I fell in love with the book so deeply that I never left.



So when I mooted the idea of writing for FAIREST, there was nothing I wanted to do more than return to the Farm and all those nonhuman characters Bill and I had created back in FABLES #6. Best of all, I managed to sell Bill and Shelly on the idea with nothing

more than the title: THE CLAMOUR FOR GLAMOUR.

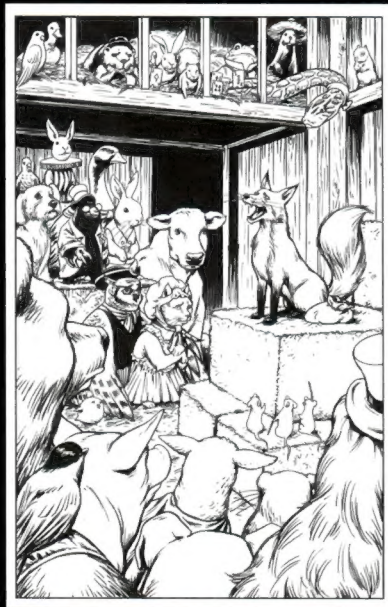
Of course, my day job of drawing FABLES every month has had a tendency to get in the way of my sitting down to write, along with my considerable trepidation at stepping out into the spotlight wearing a different hat, but finally the plot arc is done and the first issue written of what will now be our last major adventure at the Farm.

It's a story I would absolutely love to draw, but I set myself the task of proving I had the chops to stand or fall on the strength of my writing alone. Luckily for me, the perfect artist to draw a story filled with everything from forlorn felines to protesting plants, Russ Braun, versatile veteran artist of FABLES and JACK OF FABLES, said yes! I am deeply indebted to him for bringing his beautiful art and storytelling talents to my writing debut.

So please join us on this final trip to the upstate Fables community, as we see what trouble a mischievous storytelling fox can cause. I predict a riot!

*MARK BUCKINGHAM*  
B

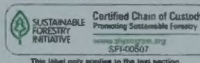
- Mark Buckingham (with his new writer hat on)



**FAIREST #27**  
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